

HIGH DESERT TRAILS RALLY

Resident / Land Owner Information

Greetings,

My name is Kristopher Marciniak, and together with my wife Christine we organize the High Desert Trails Rally, which uses the roads in and around Jawbone Canyon and Kelso Valley. We love the gorgeous routes and scenery and we want to protect and care for it as much as you. **This year's event is Friday & Saturday, May 4-5th 2018**

Please take a minute to review some of the Frequently Asked Questions that residents and land owners have. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to email us rally@highdeserttrails.com or call me directly at: **646-535-4240**

What is a rally race? Pro rally?

The High Desert Trails Rally is a performance time trial event. Rally Racing is a motorsport where a driver and navigator (co-driver) race down closed dirt roads, one car at a time, as fast as they can. The cars race against the clock, not head-to-head. The racing sections are called Special Stages and closed to all non-rally traffic. The vehicles stay on the road and do NOT go "off-road" into the desert.

What are the cars that race?

The cars are specially equipped production based models (Example: VW Golf, Dodge Neon, Subaru Impreza) and not buggies or tube chassis vehicles. They are all licensed, registered, and insured to drive on public roads. They have roll cages and safety features added along with heavy duty suspension and tires.

Will the roads be closed? How long?

Expect Jawbone Canyon to be closed from 8AM until 8PM on Fri-Sat with several breaks for residents to leave or return.
Expect Kelso Valley Road and Piute Mountain Road to be closed from 8AM until 2PM on Saturday. CHP will direct residents when it is safe to travel on the route. We appreciate your patience and we'd be happy to send you information on what times you could transit the route throughout the day.

What if there is an emergency?

As we are prepared to handle emergencies with our racers, we are also able to handle emergencies along the route. There will be a radio communications network setup that can coordinate with hospitals, county fire, medical flight, and local law enforcement. We have 2 EMTs that could immediately assist in the event of a medical emergency. If you have a serious emergency - Please DO NOT drive onto the race course! Alert one of our volunteers and we will stop the event immediately.

Enjoying the event:

We encourage you to enjoy the racing from your property / residence. Please keep a safe distance (at least 50+ feet) away from the edge of the road, and away from the outside of corners. Cars will pass every 1 minute or so as they race down the stage.

Will the cars damage the roads?

No. Our racing does little to damage the surface of the road, and we care for the roads before and after the race, filling in holes or ruts that form from rain. All stakes, caution arrows, banners and debris are cleaned up after the race is over.

Racing organization:

The rally is insured and sanctioned by the National Auto Sport Association (NASA RallySport). We are supported by the California Rally Series who have been putting events on like this for over 40 years. The first High Desert Trails Rally was run in 1973. We have over 100+ volunteers that help us to run the rally.

Permit:

The Kern County Roads Department issues us a special event permit to use and close the roads. The Kern County Board of Supervisors is aware of this event and its activity. We also work closely with the Friends of Jawbone to coordinate our event.

Investment:

Last year the rally had 26 cars in the competition. With an average of 3 crew members each, and additional volunteers, that's 230 people staying in hotels, buying food, purchasing gas, and enjoying the area for the weekend. Competitors come from all over the country to run our event!

We want to make the High Desert Trails Rally one of the best rally events in Southern California, and we can't do it without you!

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us:

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